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AMSAT NEWS SERVICE
ANS-092

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The AMSAT News Service bulletins are a free, weekly news and information service of AMSAT, The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. ANS publishes news related to Amateur Radio in Space including reports on the activities of a worldwide group of Amateur Radio operators who share an active interest in designing, building, launching and communicating through analog and digital Amateur Radio satellites.

The news feed on http://www.amsat.org publishes news of Amateur Radio in Space as soon as our volunteers can post it.

Please send any amateur satellite news or reports to: ans-editor [at] amsat.org

You can sign up for free e-mail delivery of the AMSAT News Service Bulletins via the ANS List; to join this list see: https://mailman.amsat.org/postorius/lists/ans.amsat.org/

ANS-092 AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins

To: All RADIO AMATEURS
From: Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation
712 H Street NE, Suite 1653
Washington, DC 20002

DATE 2023 Apr 02

INSPIRE-Sat 7 Scheduled for Launch

INSPIRE-Sat 7 is scheduled to launch on the SpaceX Transporter 7 mission on April 9, 2023. The INSPIRE-Sat 7 satellite is a University project made by Université de Versailles Saint-Quentin en Yvelines (France) on behalf of LATMOS (UVSQ, Sorbonne Université, Université Paris Saclay, CNRS). This satellite is a demonstrator to experiment new technology with a strong involvement of students. This satellite helps to experiment miniaturized remote sensing sensors that could be used in the multi-point observation of Essential Climate Variables (ECV) and ionosphere.

INSPIRE-Sat 7 carries an FM transponder with an uplink of 145.830 MHz and a downlink of 435.200 MHz. Plans call for the FM transponder to be active at least twice a month, pending the power budget of the satellite.

The telemetry downlink is 437.410 MHz.

[ANS thanks UVSQ and the IARU for the above information]

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Anyone who wants to claim a distance record via an amateur satellite should check the current list at https://www.amsat.org/satellite-distance-records/ and email n8hm at arrl.net if they complete a new record distance. Audio and/or video of the QSO is encouraged but not required.

[ANS thanks Paul Stoetzer, N8HM, AMSAT Executive Vice President, for the above information]

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The ISS callsign is presently scheduled to be RSØISS
The scheduled crewmember is Sergey Prokopyev
The ARISS mentor is RV3DR

Contact is pending for Wed 2023-04-12 10:45 UTC (***)

Shchelkovo, Russia, direct via TBD

The ISS callsign is presently scheduled to be RSØISS
The scheduled crewmember is Andrey Fediaev
The ARISS mentor is RV3DR

Contact is pending for Sat 2023-04-15 09:50 UTC (***)

Shchelkovo, Russia, direct via TBD (***)

The ISS callsign is presently scheduled to be RSØISS
The scheduled crewmember is Andrey Fediaev
The ARISS mentor is RV3DR

Contact is pending for Sun 2023-04-16 09:00 UTC (***)

The crossband repeater continues to be active. If any crewmember is so inclined, all they have to do is pick up the microphone, raise the volume up, and talk on the crossband repeater. So give a listen, you just never know.

Comments on making general contacts

I have been seeing a lot of traffic on Facebook and I suspect on other social media sites with people asking why they are not hearing the crew make general contacts. First off the crew is very busy on the ISS and they simply may not have the time to just pick up the microphone and talk. Also, one needs to be aware of their normal daily schedule. I have listed below the constraints that we at ARISS have to follow in order to schedule the school contacts. Hopefully this will help you better schedule your opportunities.

Typical daily schedule

Wakeup to Workday start= 1.5 hours
Workday start to Workday end=12 hours
Workday end to Sleep= 2 hours
Sleep to wakeup= 8.5 hours

The crew's usual waking period is 0730 - 1930 UTC. The most common times to find a crew member making casual periods are about one hour after waking and before sleeping, when they have personal time. They're usually free most of the weekend, as well.

SSTV events are not that often. So please check out https://www.ariss.org/ for the latest information or watch for the ARISS announcements.

And don’t forget that the packet system is active.

As always, if there is an EVA, a docking, or an undocking; the ARISS radios are turned off as part of the safety protocol.

ARISS Radio Status

Columbus Module radios:
IORS (Kenwood D710GA) – STATUS - Configured. Default mode is for cross band repeater (145.990 MHz up {PL 67} & 437.800 MHz down).

* Powering off for Russian EVA targeting April 19. OFF TBD . ON TBD.
* Powering off for Russian EVA targeting April 26. OFF TBD . ON TBD.
* Powering off for Russian EVA targeting May 04. OFF TBD . ON TBD.
* Powering off for Progress 84 docking on May 24. OFF TBD . ON TBD.
* Capable of supporting USOS scheduled voice contacts, packet and voice repeater ops.

Service Module radios:
IORS (Kenwood D710GA) – STATUS - Configured. Default mode is fo packet operations (145.825 MHz up & down)
* Powering off for Russian EVA targeting April 19. OFF TBD . ON TBD.
* Powering off for Russian EVA targeting April 26. OFF TBD . ON TBD.
* Powering off for Russian EVA targeting May 04. OFF TBD . ON TBD.
* Powering off for Progress 84 docking on May 24. OFF TBD . ON TBD.
* Capable of supporting ROS scheduled voice contacts, packet, SSTV and voice repeater ops.

The latest information on the operation mode can be found at https://www.ariss.org/current-status-of-iss-stations.html

The latest list of frequencies in use can be found at https://www.ariss.org/contact-the-iss.html

[ANS thanks Charlie Sufana, AJ9N, one of the ARISS operation team mentors for the above information]

Upcoming Satellite Operations

>From Wayne, W4WGC:

SE Arizona Rove:

Grid DM41 on 03/31/2023

ISS @ 19:45z; PO-101 @ 22:12z

Grid DM51 on 04/01/2023

SO-50 @ 14:54a; AO-91 @ 16:10z;

Grid DM52 in the afternoon, but I may not be able to get any FM birds

Grid DM42 possibly on SO-50 @ 16:13Z, AO-91 @ 17:30z

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>From Cam, K4DCA:

I’m going to be passing through the elusive FN01 tomorrow (1st April) afternoon and will do some FM passes. Then i’ll be in FN02, 03 and possibly some in and out of some other grids for the week.

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Joe, KE9AJ will be in New Mexico Mar 26-30. Then onto DN70 in Colorado Apr 1-10. He will have his IO-117 gear with him.

This will be a family trip so sat operations will be as time permits. Watch his Twitter (and here!) for more info as it becomes available.

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Ray, KN2K hopes to be QRV from the FM28/FM29 gridline on 11 April. Watch his Twitter (and here!) for updates.

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SAT DXPEDITION MENORCA ISLAND 2023

(DXCC : EA6 Balearic is. / GRIDS : JN10+JN20+JM19+JM29 / IOTA : EU-004)

Philippe, EA4NF will be operating on satellite from MENORCA Island as EA6/EA4NF from April 5 to 8, 2023.

Portable activation with a FT818ND and a FT817ND operating in full Duplex with an Alaskan Arrow Antenna and also handheld+whip antenna

April 5-8, 2023
FM SAT & LINEARS
QSL via LoTW as EA6/EA4NF
Keep an eye on Philippe’s Twitter feed for further updates : @EA4NF_SAT

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>From Jerry, W8LR:

West Virginia EM88 15th & 16th April W8LR/R

2334z 15th IO-117 Asia, NA, SA, EU, AF, Eur-Asia

0335z 16th IO-117 SA, NA, AF, EU, Eur-Asia

1643z 16th RS-44 SA, NA, EU (ed: I do not have QRG info)

1729z 16th IO-117 SA, NA, EU, Eur-Asia

2150z 16th IO-117 AS, NA, SA, EU, AF, Eur-Asia

Log as W8LR/R

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>From Nick, M1DDD:

MM1DDD/P 18th-22nd April

IO74/IO75 18th

IO66/IO76 19th & 20th

IO67/IO77 21st

IO86 22nd

(ed.-this is all I have as of this writing. Watch Nick’s Twitter -and here- for satellite & QRG info as they become available)

Please submit any additions or corrections to k5zm (at) comcast (dot) net.

[ANS thanks Ian Parsons, K5ZM, AMSAT rover page manager, for the above information]

Hamfests, Conventions, Maker Faires, and Other Events

AMSAT Ambassadors provide presentations, demonstrate communicating through amateur satellites, and host information tables at club meetings, hamfests, conventions, maker faires, and other events.

Hamvention 2023
May 19-21, 2023
Stay tuned for announcements about AMSAT Hamvention activites, including the TAPR/AMSAT Dinner.

[ANS thanks AMSAT for the above information]

Satellite Shorts From All Over

+ Save the Date: The TAPR/AMSAT Banquet during Hamvention weekend will take place on Friday, May 19, 2023. Stay tuned for a formal announcement and the opening of ticket sales.

+ AMSAT News Service (ANS) is always eager to have volunteers as editors of the weekly bulletins. Editors gather news items related to amateur satellite operations and package them for distribution worldwide. The time commitment is flexible. For more information, contact k0jm at amsat.org (ANS thanks Mark Johns, K0JM, ANS Senior Editor, for the above information)

+ The Axiom Mission 2 (Ax-2), the second private astronaut mission to the International Space Station aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon spacecraft, is targeted for early May from Launch Complex 39A at NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Florida. During the 10 day mission the four-person multinational crew will complete more than 20 research experiments developed for microgravity in collaboration with organizations across the globe. Amateur radio was a big part of the Ax-1 mission in April of 2022, but none of the four Ax-2 crewmembers appear to be licensed amateurs. (ANS thanks NASA for the above information)

+ Congratulations to Larry, KF6JOQ, who is the 55th recipient of the AMSAT GridMaster Award for working and confirming all 488 grids located in the continental United States

+ Congratulations to David, VK5DG, the 74th recipient of the AMSAT Rover Award (Thanks to AMSAT Director of Contests and Awards Bruce Paige, KK5DO)

+ The January/February 2023 Edition of The AMSAT Journal is now available to members at https://launch.amsat.org/The_AMSAT_Journal

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Join AMSAT today at https://launch.amsat.org/

In addition to regular membership, AMSAT offers membership to:

* Societies (a recognized group, clubs or organization).
* Primary and secondary school students are eligible for membership at one-half the standard yearly rate.
* Post-secondary school students enrolled in at least half time status shall be eligible for the student rate for a maximum of 6 post-secondary years in this status.
* Memberships are available for annual and lifetime terms.

Contact info [at] amsat.org for additional membership information.

73 and remember to help Keep Amateur Radio in Space!

This week's ANS Editor,

Paul Stoetzer, N8HM
n8hm [at] amsat.org